



COMMUNITY IMPACT

Communities of Opportunity

Creating greater health, social, economic and racial equity.

COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY PROVIDES A COMMUNITY-LED APPROACH.

While our region continues to experience strong economic growth and a high quality of life for some, there are still striking imbalances and disparities based on place, race and income. These impact the health, housing and economic fabric of our communities. In order to address these inequities and achieve shared prosperity, we need to engage the diversity of our region in creating and owning the solutions.

That's why Seattle Foundation and King County launched Communities of Opportunity (COO) in 2014 to improve health, social, racial and economic outcomes by focusing on places, policies and systems change. The COO

approach is cross-sector and involves genuine community engagement. Residents are at the table from the beginning to build solutions based on their perspectives, relevant knowledge and lived experience.



"Through Communities of Opportunity we have a governance approach in which the community participates in innovation, implementation, as well as budgeting and coordination. It's a real growth process for the community."

— TONY TO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HOMESIGHT



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT COO
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COLLABORATIVE FUNDING APPROACH

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Seattle Foundation received the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2016 Secretary's Award for this partnership with King County.

IMPROVING SYSTEMS FOR PEOPLE ACROSS OUR REGION

Communities of Opportunity supports community-led efforts to improve systems and policies within and across communities moving the needle on better health and access to quality affordable housing as well as educational and economic opportunities. These positive changes reduce the need for crisis services and improve well-being for our region as a whole. Instead of working alone in silos, partners collaborate across sectors and issue areas. COO also invests in place-based partnerships in White Center, Rainier Valley and SeaTac-Tukwila to incubate new approaches that can have ripple effects across the region. These communities demonstrate the greatest need, the greatest opportunity and the greatest readiness for change.

Targeted Investments

To address these inequities, Communities of Opportunity targets King County communities with the greatest need through three types of investments:



EFFORTS WHICH POSITIVELY INFLUENCE
POLICIES, SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES WITHIN
AND ACROSS THESE COMMUNITIES



MULTI-YEAR PLACE-BASED
FUNDING FOR LOCAL
ORGANIZATIONS



SHARED LEARNING
AMONG CROSS-SECTOR
PARTNERS